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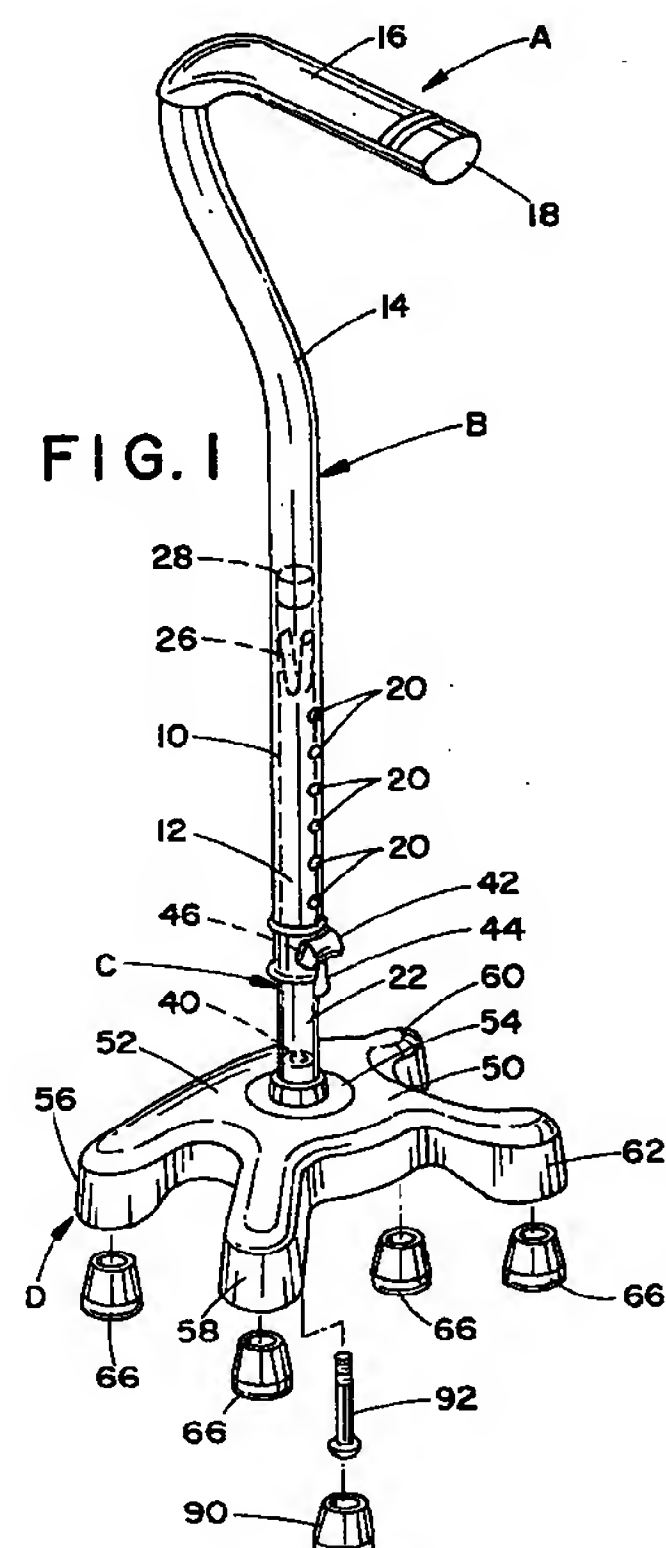
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(54) **Composite base assembly for a cane**

(57) A patient support device, particularly a cane (A), includes a fifth leg (90) that extends outwardly from a central portion of a base assembly (D) at a region intermediate first (56), second (58), third (60), and fourth (62) legs. The fifth leg (90) provides increased balance and stability for the user. Moreover, the base assembly (D) includes a one-piece member (50) constructed from a moulded plastics composite material to reduce manufacturing costs. The fifth leg (90) can be slightly recessed relative to the remaining four legs (56 to 62) so that the patient's weight is evenly distributed to the perimeter of the support area defined by the base member (50).



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) A61H A45B
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 March 1999	Examiner Jones, T
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 97 30 7557

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The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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